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NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

January 17, 1968

Dear Dick:

I am in wholehearted agreement with the arrangements for establishment of a Reconnaissance Planning Group as suggested in your letter of December 8, 1967 ([redacted]-4585-67). I also concur with the terms of reference which you attached to that letter.

I believe that this Group can greatly strengthen our procedures for coordinating planning for the National Reconnaissance Program and will provide an important additional channel for exchange of information and views regarding planning studies between the interested and responsible elements of the intelligence community.

I propose to proceed with the organization of this Group on the basis of the membership representation you have suggested. I understand from Mr. Bross that informal discussions have been held with General Carter and Dr. Steininger relative to the participation of the NSA and the Office of the Special Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, respectively. I have asked Mr. Reber to serve as Chairman and to complete the necessary tasks related to organization as soon as possible, with a view to holding an early meeting of the Group and establishing an agenda for specific planning reviews of most immediate current concern.

De[redacted]

Alexander H. Flax

The Honorable Richard Helms
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

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